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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan: draft resolution

Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia

The General Assembly,

Recalling paragraphs 60, 61, 62 and 64 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[1] the provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[2] and paragraphs 5 and 6 of the decision entitled "Principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament" in the Final Document of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[3] concerning the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Recognizing the importance of agreements on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in various regions of the world,

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

[1] Resolution S-10/2.

[2] United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[3] NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I), annex, decision 2.

Recalling the Almaty Declaration of the Heads of State of the Central Asian States of 28 February 1997[4] and the statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia,[5] signed at Tashkent on 15 September 1997,

Reaffirming the generally recognized role of the United Nations in the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Convinced that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in various regions of the world is a means of achieving general and complete disarmament,

Believing that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in various regions, including Central Asia, will help to strengthen peace and stability at both the regional and the global levels and is in the interests of the security of the States in the Central Asian region,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all States to develop research into nuclear energy and the production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination,

Welcoming the offer of the Kyrgyz Republic to hold a consultative meeting of experts on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia in Bishkek in 1998,

1. Calls upon all countries to support the initiative for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to establish a group of United Nations experts to provide the requisite assistance to the Central Asian countries in the preparation of the form and elements of an agreement on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

3. Decides to consider the question of the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia at its fifty-third session under the agenda item "General and complete disarmament".

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[4] A/52/112, annex.

[5] A/52/390, annex.